Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sorces (MNES) has not received any application from NGOs for organizing exhibitions in Andhra Pradesh during the years 2001-02 and 2002-2003. However, MNES has provided financial support of Rs. 4.80 lakh to the Non-Conventional Energy Development Corporation of Andhra Pradesh (NEDCAP), Hyderabad, the State Nodal Agency for Andhra Pradesh, for organizing 3 exhibitions on non-conventional energy in Andhra Pradesh during the years 2001-02 and 2002-2003.

(d) MNES has been implementing several programmes for the demonstration and expansion of use of non-conventional energy, and providing fiscal and financial support and guidelines to States. Besides, publicity and awareness activities through electronic, print and outdoor media, and workshops/seiminars/business meets are supported by MNES in all States and Union Territories.

Rice husk ash based power generation plants

4276. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government extends some subsidy for power generation from rice husk ash;

(b) the details of the subsidy given for this kind of energy;

(c) whether Government will enhance subsidy for this specific kind of non-conventional energy generation to help farmers;

(d) the steps proposed to consider encouraging the establishment of more rice husk ash based power generation plants; and

(e) the details of such schemes available for enterpreneurs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Rice husk, and not the rice husk ash, is used to generate electricity. Central Financial Assistance in the form of interest subsidy or capital subsidy is provided for power generation from rice husk, depending upon the type of project and technology configuration.

(c) The level of Central Financial Assistance is reviewed from time to time keeping in view the viability of the projects and the need for such assistance.

(d) The steps taken to encourage the establishment of such power generation projects, include, besides Central Financial Assistance, fiscal incentives such as accelerated depreciation and concessional duties and taxes; and, term loans from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency. The State Governments have introduced a policy for power generation from non-conventional energy sources.

(e) Two schemes are available for entrepreneurs to set up power generation projects from rice husk. In the first scheme, for large grid-connected projects, interest subsidy on term loan or capital subsidy is provided for different types of projects. In the other scheme, for decentralized projects, capital subsidy is provided for eligible projects.

Tapping of wind energy for power production

4277. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is great potential in tapping Wind Energy for power production;

(b) if so, what is the total cost of production involved to set up small commercial wind-generated power plants; and

(c) whether Government intends to introduce more subsidies for the cost of production to make wind generated power plants more economically for commercial purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The gross wind power potential in the country has been estimated at 45,000 MW. The present exploitable technical potential is 13,000 MW.

(b) The total cost of installation of commercial wind power projects, on average, is in the range of Rs. 4.5 crore to Rs. 5.5 crore per MW, depending upon their location, type of equipment selected, and other infrastructure costs.

(c) No direct capital subsidy is provided to commercial wind power projects. However, various fiscal and promotional incentives and term loans are available to improve their economic viability. Policies have also